NORTHWEST WASHINGTON SYNOD
5519 Phinney Avenue North
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Property of
Graduate Theological Union
OCT 09 1989

"Soundings"

Lowell E. Knutson, Bishop
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and "Soundings" Editor

Volume II, Issue 8 SEPTEMBER, 1989

1989 CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY

At the first Churchwide Assembly held in Chicago last month, the ELCA stepped quickly and decisively into the community of Christian churches in both the United States and the world. With very little discussion, 1,041 delegates representing the 65 synods of the ELCA voted overwhelmingly (98%+) to join the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches. The discussion and vote served notice that we plan to bear our witness in the WCC, and plan a major role in the restructuring of the NCC.

A heated debate also took place over divestment of pension funds invested in South African stocks. Forty-four synods had passed resolutions calling for a quicker timeline than the Board of Pensions director had been pursuing. A resolution calling for a total divestment by June of 1991 was passed by a large majority.

The Assembly enthusiastically passed Bishop Chilstrom's "Mission 90" program. This program calls for a united study of scripture around the question "What does it mean to be a Christian?". Other parts of the program will be concentrated efforts calling for witness and service, as well as a challenge to become committed tithers. Much more will be spelled out in the months to come.

To be a delegate to this first historic assembly of the ELCA was a privilege. The sessions were long but inspiring, and left one excited and hopeful about the mission and witness of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The members of our synod's delegation were listed in the previous two issues of "Soundings". I hope you might also have some contact with them as they share their impressions.

Shalom,

Lowell E Knutson

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHURCH COUNCIL OF GREATER SEATTLE FALL ASSEMBLY

The Fall Assembly will welcome and honor the **Metropolitan Aleksiy of Leningrad** and his 12-member delegation on Monday, Sept. 18 at a 6:00 pm dinner at University Presbyterian Church, Seattle. Reserved places for the dinner and the assembly are $10.00 each. Early registration is recommended, as seating is limited. Respond by Monday, Sept. 11 to Church Council of Greater Seattle, 4759-15th Ave. NE, Seattle 98105, 525-1213.

Metropolitan Aleksiy was recently elected to the new parliament of the Soviet Union, the Congress of Peoples Deputies. He is actively involved in the ecumenical movement, and represents the Russian Orthodox Church at many World Council of Churches events. He is the elected President of the Conference of European Churches, the ecumenical union for all of Europe, and has taken part in dialogues with people of all faiths on peace, social justice and disarmament. His diocese is the northern half of Russia, Finland and Estonia.

An ecumenical prayer service of unity follows the dinner at 8:00 p.m., and those wishing to attend the service only are welcome. An offering will be taken to benefit the Bibles for Leningrad project. A reception will follow at which Russian tea and Russian desserts will be served. Be sure to attend this very special event!

A GET-TOGETHER FOR CLERGY SPOUSES & WIDOWS

Save the date of Saturday, Nov. 4 for a get-together at Magnolia Lutheran, Seattle from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Alene Moris will lead the group around the theme of "Celebrating the Wisdom of Women". Lunch will be served at noon.

OPEN HEARING FOR THE STUDY OF MINISTRY

DATE: OCTOBER 2
TIME: Two 2-hour hearings, 3-5 pm and 7-9 pm
PLACE: St. John Lutheran, 5515 Phinney Ave No, Seattle, 784-1040

All interested persons, lay or clergy, are welcome to particiate in the hearing. The end result of the study will be a new ministry document for the ELCA, answering questions about the status of ordained ministry, associates in ministry, and the ministry of the laity.

PEACE WITH JUSTICE WEEK - OCT. 16-24

Faith communities across the U.S. will observe Peace with Justice Week. In its 7th year, the theme for 1989 is "In God We Trust: The Other Side of the Coin". These dates span World Food Day and World Disarmament Day.

An idea-filled "Organizer Booklet" loaded with suggestions to help you plan Peace with Justice activities can be obtained for $3.50 from Peace with Justice Week, 777 U.N. Plaza, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10017.

A GATHERING FOR MOTHERS

Lutheran Deaconess Association's Center for Diaconal Ministry is again offering **"The M is Me": A Gathering for Mothers.** The event is designed to affirm and support mothers in their daily ministry of mothering. Childcare is provided. The event is scheduled in our region Nov. 10-12 near Portland, OR. Cost is $85 (includes food, lodging and porgram). Limited scholarships are available. Limited to 25 women. Local contact and registrar: Lynn Wiltse, 605 SE 39th St., Portland, OR 97214; (503) 231-7480.

U OF W ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The U of W Lutheran Campus Ministry is sponsoring an anniversary celebration and alumni event during Homecoming Weekend, Nov. 4-5. A reception honoring past campus ministry staff, followed by a dinner, will be held Nov. 4 at Covenant House. For further information, please contact Jean Hanke, 641-3509, or Pat Stuart, 361-6363. Please publicize this event to your congregation. Thank you.

THREE UPCOMING ECUMENICAL EVENTS

The annual observance of Reformation Day in the Seattle area will feature Dr. William Rusch, Executive Director of the ELCA Office for Ecumenical Affairs, on Oct. 29 at 7 pm at St. James Cathedral in Seattle.

A celebration of an agreement between Lutherans and Episcopalians called "Interim Sharing of the Eucharist" will be held at St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle on Nov. 26 at 4 pm. Bishops of the NWWA and SWWA synods and both the retiring and newly elected bishops of the Olympia Diocese will lead in the service. Preacher for the occasion will be the recently retired Bishop of Stockholm, Krister Stendahl, now living in the U.S. and associated with Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass.

A follow-up event will take place at PLU on Nov. 27 at 4 pm with a workshop for ecumenically involved persons from the parishes of both communions. Also at PLU at 7:30 pm, Bishop Stendahl will address the public on the future of Lutheran-Episcopal relations.

The second annual observance in Seattle of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place on January 21, 1990 at St. Mark's Cathedral.

LSS & LCC BENEFIT BANQUET

A banquet to benefit Lutheran Social Services and Lutheran Compass Center will be held on Friday, Nov. 3, at 6:30 p.m. at the Design Center Atrium, 5701 Sixth Ave So., Seattle. Guest speaker will be Hubert Locke, Dean Emeritus and Professor Graduate School of Public Affairs University of Washington. For more information, call Larry Johnson, 365-2700 or Robbin Holden at 461-7835.

SEARCH TRAINING

Fall training events for congregational leaders are listed below. These training weekends are for new SEARCH congregations, as well as those already trained. Faculty will be Buzz Kahn, Pat Moylan, and Marcia Olson. Contact Marcia at 937-3765 for details.

Sept. 29-Oct. 1--Lutherhaven, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Oct. 20-22--The Cedars Retreat, east of Portland

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA

Coordinator's Office:
766-B John Street
Seattle, WA 98109-5186
(206) 624-0093

The Synods Of:

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TO: Bulk mail preparers
FROM: Boots Winterstein, Region 1 RCM
RE: Privileges and pitfalls
DATE: June 27, 1989

Recently, some of you have had difficulty having your carefully-prepared, very important (of course!) bulk mail accepted. Co-sponsorships, particularly, are causing problems.

We are enclosing a copy of information shared at a recent bulk-mail seminar I attended in Seattle. Points 6 and 7 on the enclosure are especially important. What they are saying is to be very careful about how you word activities of which you are not the sole sponsor.

1. The following, for instance, would be a "no-no":

   CONFERENCE ON HOW TO AVOID CONFERENCES
   co-sponsored by--
   ABCD Lutheran Church, Portland, Oregon
   EFGH Lutheran Church, Vancouver, Washington
   WXYZ Lutheran Church, Seattle, Washington

   All permit holders would need to be located in the city of mailing in order for you to use your permit unless the mailing included an endorsement of the fact that you are paying the bulk rate postage. I'd recommend very strongly that you check with the post office regarding the wording before you print your material.

2. The following might also bring you to grief:

   GOLF FOR GOD!--a fundraising opportunity sponsored by Dipsi-Cola.

   The reasoning goes that, if Dipsi-Cola is the sponsor, then Dipsi-Cola should pay the postage.

   The recommendation from the post office folks is that you acknowledge your benefactor in the text of your mailing. "Thanks to our great friends at _____ for _____."

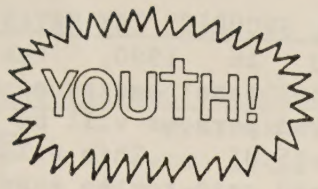
(OVER)

3. When in doubt, contact the post office before you have your mailing printed. They are quite helpful. Here are some Seattle numbers:

442-6360 Mailing Requirements
442-6360 Bulk Mail Acceptance

Even better, take a sample to the bulk mail people. (In Seattle, you will find them at 241 S.Lander, second floor, hours: 8-4). Then you'll know for sure.

* * * *



REGION I YOUTH GATHERING

Plan for your youth to attend this year's gathering Nov. 24-26 at the Seattle Westin and Seattle Sheraton Hotels. All sessions will be held at the Seattle Center Arena. The main speaker will be Dr. Rollie Martinson from Luther Northwestern Seminary. Bible study leader will be Pastor Nancy Winder of Seattle, and music will be provided by the Jay Beech Band and The total Experience Gospel Choir. A "journey to the city experience" will be included for youth who would like to see the ministry needs of an urban environment.

Cost is $65 plus food if you register before October 16, or $75 plus food if you register after the 16th. Register early because this event will fill up fast! Questions? Call Pastor Maynard Atik, 783-7900, or Pastor Dave Ellingson, 624-0093.

YOUTH GATHERING PROMOTIONAL VIDEO

Now available in the Regional Office, an 8-minute promotional video on the upcoming 1990 Western States Youth Gathering in Santa Clara, California. This exciting event will bring together youth from ELCA Regions 1 and 2 June 29-July 6, 1990 under the theme "GO INTO THE WORLD". Beginning with two days of servant projects in the San Francisco Bay area, the gathering will include several days of speakers, music, workshops, a recreation day at the Great American theme park, and the 4th of July in San Francisco.

Registration materials will be sent in September. Registration opens January 1, 1990. There will be room for the first 7,000 registrations--so plan ahead!

1990/91 YELLOW PAGES ADVERTISING

U S West Direct is now compiling the 1990/91 directories for Seattle, Bellevue and South King County. The majority of congregations are listed under the heading, "Churches--Lutheran". However, there is a new heading where the synod office is listed called "Churches--Lutheran ELCA", and we ask that congregations change their listing so that it will appear under this new heading. The deadline for making this change with U S West is September 30. Thank you!

1990 SALARY GUIDELINES

The Synod Leadership Support Committee has completed the first draft of the 1990 Salary Guidelines for clergy and certified lay staff. This draft will be presented to the Synod Council the end of September. If these guidelines are approved by the Council, they will be reproduced and distributed to congregations mid-October.

HEIFER PROJECT ALTERNATIVE GIVING

Bring the true spirit of Christmas to your church family while helping to wipe out hunger around the world. Instead of getting and giving commercial gifts, your church family can send gifts of food-producing animals to other needy families here and overseas. At the Living Gift Market, booths are set up where patrons may purchase all, or part shares, of cows, goats, chickens, bees or fish, all to be sent to needy families.

For a free Living Gift Market guidebook, write Heifer Project International, P O Box 126, Ceres, CA 95307; (209) 537-8996.

BIBLES FOR LENINGRAD ARRIVE

For those of you who read every issue of "Soundings" (and, of course, you ALL do!), you will remember reading about the Church Council of Greater Seattle, Leningrad-Seattle Sister Churches Program. An order for 10,000 Bibles was placed with the American Bible Society in March. The 3,500 Bibles for the Protestant churches arrived in Leningrad in late July. The 6,500 Bibles for the other churches in Leningrad will be shipped soon.

To date, donations have been received for only 4,701 of these Bibles. The Church Council would appreciate another appeal in your congregation to participate in this worthwhile project to fulfill our promise to the Leningrad churches. It is an excellent project for your Bible study groups, social action committee, evangelism and outreach committee. The cost of one Bible is $10.50; $21.00 will send two, and $31.50 will send three. Each Bible will contain a book plate with the donor's name and the name and address of the church. The Bible is a personal gift to the Christians in Leningrad, some of whom have never seen or owned their own Bible.

For more information, contact Paul Riley at 525-1213, or send checks to "Bibles for Leningrad", 4759-15th Ave NE, Seattle 98105.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW BREAD FOR THE WORLD RESOURCES

New resources have been developed this past year by Bread for the World, a grassroots citizens movement working to end world hunger. Ten audio cassettes present the lastest developments on hunger issues and effective activism skills, and can be purchased for $60 plus $2.50 postage. A new video, "You Can Make a Difference," tells the story of how 40,000 Christians often get more food to hungry people than all charitable relief agencies combined; 18 minutes, $19.95 plus $2.00 postage. A study course, "A Chance to Survive: A Study Guide on Child Health will bring your study group into the lives of people in the Third World. In two, one-hour sessions group members learn about the root causes of hunger and what is being done to end hunger in developing countries. Slides, a facilitator's guide, background material, case studies and fact sheets are included; $28.00 plus $4.00 postage.

Order all the above materials from Bread for the World Institute on Hunger and Development, 802 Rhode Island Ave NE, Washington D.C. 20018.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION (STATE INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE)

Please note the following information taken from an article in the Southwestern Washington Synod newsletter:

"It has been called to our attention that some of our congregations are not paying into the Workmen's Compensation Fund for clergy as required by state law. The State Labor and Industries Board has been auditing churches at random, and has come up with quite a few who did not know they were required to participate. We hope that our congregations are in compliance, but if not, you need to immediately contact the State Labor and Industries Board, Olympia, WA 98504-0631, or phone 1-800-547-8367 to take care of this matter. One of our churches was involved in this auditing and had to pay a hefty fine, along with back assessments amounting to over $400."

Please check to make sure that your congregation is paying into this fund.

TWO GERMANYS AND POLAND COURSE

Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary is offering "Church and State in East and West", led by Jim Burtness and Herb Brokering, both professors at LNTS. Date: Nov. 26-Dec. 16, 1989. Cost: $1,650. Call synod office for more details.

1990 SOCIAL SECURITY TAX RATES SET

Beginning in 1990, the estimated contribution base (maximum salary) for self-employed persons will be $50,700 with a rate of 15.3%. This will bring the self-employed rate to the same as that for employers/employees. The maximum tax will be $7,757.

Also beginning in 1990, self-employed persons will be allowed a deduction from taxable income of an amount equal to one-half of the social security tax paid, lowering the effective rate to 7.65%, the same as for an employee. (This information gleaned from the newsletter of the Southern California West Synod.)

LATIN AMERICA INFORMATION PACKET

The Center for Global Education has sent the synod office a Latin America packet with current information on the situation there. Call or stop by if you are interested in any of this information.

WANT ADS

MUSIC DIRECTOR

St. Luke's, Bellevue is in transition with regard to their music program/ministry. They seek a person to organize a children's choir and youth bell choir, in addition to the adult bell choir and sanctuary choir. They are looking for one person who would be interested in developing an inclusive program, or a variety of individuals who have only one area of interest.

Contact Tom Reich, Worship Chairperson at 822-7907, or Pastor Tom Kidd.

FOR SALE: Minolta 300RE copy machine $1,500; Gestetner mimeograph and scanner and supplies, $1,000 or best offer. Contact Peace, West Seattle, between 8 a and 2 pm, 935-1962.

POSITION OPEN AT RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING

A part-time opportunity is open at Religious Broadcasting Commission, an ecumenical mass media agency. The job requires a background knowledge of denominational and ecumenical relationships, good typing, writing and organizational skills. The job would include the following: Asst. Producer-Northwest Encounter, Production Asst., and Promotion Asst. Start at $5.50-$6.00 per hour 3 days/week. Apply to J. Grale Taylor, Executive Director, 500 Wall St. Suite 415, Seattle 98121; 441-6110.

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

LITE RESIDENT THEOLOGIAN SCHEDULE SET

LITE Lutheran Institute for Theological Education in the Pacific Northwest

Professor Ronald Hals, recently retired from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, will serve as "resident theologian" in the Pacific Northwest from Sept. 17 to Nov. 29. His schedule in our synod is as follows:

Day/Dates	Area	Contact	Phone
Oct 1-5 Sun-Thurs	Edmonds	Jeff Russell	778-2189
Oct 29- Nov 1 Sun-Wed	Bellevue	Llano Thelin	454-4344
Nov 19-21 Sun-Tues	Bellingham	Ken Daugs	733-4190

Dr. Hals will be teaching a variety of material, and his specialty is in Old Testament studies. All lay persons, clergy, and lay church workers will have an opportunity to study with this exciting biblical scholar.

Although it is too late to schedule Ron Hals to visit your cluster this year, if you would like to be considered for next year's program, or have other questions, contact the LITE office, 535-7342.

TWO WORKSHOPS OFFERED AT L.B.I.

On Saturday, Sept. 30, two workshops will be offered simultaneously, beginning at 9 am: Beginning Teacher Workshop and Beginning Youth Sponsor Workshop. For information, call 392-0400. Registration is $15 and must be received by Sept. 27.

PASTORAL CARE AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP

This Pastoral Care Group exists for the support of clergy and the enhancement of Christian ministry. Participants covenant together to meet regularly, support each other in prayer, and hold in sacred trust all that is shared. Group size is limited to 8 participants who meet weekly for a set number of 2-hour meetings. Facilitaed by Pastor Charles Davis of Counseling Associates in Lynnwood, the weekly group runs Sept. 20-May 30. Special retreats are also offered. Call 778-8622.

FALL AND WINTER OPPORTUNITIES AT HOLDEN

HOLDEN VILLAGE CHELAN, WASHINGTON 98816

Two retreats are offered at Holden Village in October: "Our Life Together: Building Community" (Oct. 13-16) will explore ways for congregations and groups to deepen relationships within their community. "Her Story: Women, Faith and Freedom" (Oct. 27-30) will be a weekend for women to celebrate discoveries, struggles and growth as Christians in the church and world. Issues of feminist theology, spirituality and sexuality will be explored.

A ten-week Winter Sojourn is offered Oct. 8-Dec. 17, 1989 and Feb. 4-April 15, 1990. Each participant works as a half-time member of the Holden Village volunteer staff. The theme this year is "Spiritual Journeys: Action and Contemplation". The course will explore both the inward and outward journey of faithful response in a broken world.

Write to Holden Village, Chelan, WA 98816 for further information.

YOUTH SUICIDE SEMINAR

You are invited to a seminar, "Youth Suicide: Facing It Together" at Trinity Lutheran, 12115 Park Ave., Tacoma, on Saturday, Oct. 14. The $15 registration includes lunch. Several noted keynote speakers will be featured, along with discussion groups on loss and grief, signs and symptoms, survivors of suicide, and more. Contact Pastor Scott Fuller, 537-0201.

ADVOCACY WORKSHOP

This workshop on Saturday, October 21, will provide participants with an understanding of the biblical imperative for advocacy, insight into how the political system operates, tools for empowering all of us to participate, and an opportunity to join a network of Lutheran advocates. All interested persons are invited to attend at Prince of Peace Lutheran, 14514-20th Ave. NE, Seattle, 363-8100.

Send $12.00 to register before Oct. 12 to Lutheran Social Services, 19230 Forest Park Dr. NE, Seattle, WA 98115. $15 at the door (includes lunch). Co-sponsored by Lutheran Public Policy Office/WA, Lutheran Social Services/NW Area Social Ministry Program, and NWWA Synod Board of Social Concerns.

NORTHWEST WASHINGTON SYNOD
5519 Phinney Ave. No.
Seattle, WA 98103-5899

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2400 Ridge Road
Berkeley, CA 94709

SEPTEMBER '89

C A L E N D A R

Sept	
13	Finance Committee, Prince of Peace No, 6 pm
14	Lutheran Housing Coalition, St John, Seattle, 7:30 pm
14	Youth Committee, 4 pm, Trinity, Lynnwood
14	LPPO/WA, Calvary, Federal Way, 7 pm
15-16	STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE, LBI
15-16	Region I Candidacy Committee, Denny Park
16	Leadership Support Committee, Trinity, Lynnwood, 9 am
16	LSSW Social Ministry Leadership Brunch, St. John, Seattle, 9 am
17	South King Cluster, 2 pm, Lakeridge, Seattle
18	Fall Assembly, Church Council/Greater Seattle, University Presbyterian, 6 pm
21	Board of Congregational Life, Prince of Peace No, 7:30 pm
23	Bd of Social Concerns, St John, Seattle, 9 am
23	Sno-King Cluster Planning Retreat, Bethel/Shoreline, Seattle, 10 am
25-28	THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, Holden Village
26	World Hunger Committee, Christ, Edmonds, 7:30 pm
29-30	Synod Council Retreat, LOMA, Issaquah

A self-employed painter had come upon hard times, and there was precious little work to be found. So when a pastor called and asked him to bid on painting the church, he was almost too eager. He got the job, but realized afterward his bid was so low he wasn't even going to cover his expenses. Desperate, he decided to water down the paint to boost his profit margin.

As the job was nearly finished, the sky grew dark and there was a peal of thunder. Almost instantly, a raging thunderstorm washed the fresh paint completely off the church. "An act of God," he said to himself, and he became filled with guilt. "I'm sorry, I'm sorry," he said remorsefully. "How can I make this right?"

"Repaint," said a deep voice from above, "and thin no more."

CALLS ACCEPTED LP=Lead Pastor A=Associate Y=Youth Pastor

(none this month)

INSTALLATION

John N. Clauson	Nativity, Renton	10/22/89

ORDINATIONS

(none this month)

RESIGNATION

Gerald N. Hefty	Shepherd/Valley, Startup	08/31/89

RETIREMENT

Richard J. Bingea	University, Seattle	10/01/89

TRANSFERS IN/OUT OF SYNOD

Robert R. Johnson (ret)	from So Cal (East) Hawaii	08/14/89
Richard A. Brandt	to SWWA Synod	08/89
William M. Neuman	to SWWA Synod	08/89

CONGREGATIONS IN CALL PROCESS NV=New Vacancy Int=Interim
CP=Congregational Profile I=Interviewing C=Calling

Ferndale, Christ	I	Robert Johnson, Pastor
Freeland, Trinity	C	Clair Grube, Int
Kenmore, Northlake	CP	Sonja Johnson, Int
Redmond, Sammamish Hills (A)	I	Richard Nieman, Pastor
Seattle, Denny Park	CP	Robert Schultz, Int